

Appl. No. 10/675,315
Amdt. dated September 28, 2004
Reply to Office action of June 28, 2004

REMARKS

In the specification, the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 15, has been amended to correct a typographical error as noted by the examiner.

The examiner has acknowledged that claims 4, 5 and 7 are directed to allowable subject matter. Claims 4, 5 and 7 have each been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 5 has also been amended to address the claim objection raised in paragraph 2 of the office action.

The examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,551,082 (Douzono et al.). Applicants respectfully traverse such rejection.

Independent claim 1 recites a two-stage screw compressor including two rotor housings with "each of the two rotor housings being surrounded by a coolant housing and being cooled by coolant that flows inside of the coolant housing, both rotor housings being enclosed at a distance by the coolant housing and the coolant housing having a coolant inlet and a coolant outlet designed such that the coolant that flows from the inlet to the outlet passes around and cools both rotor housings."

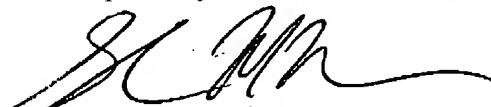
In contradistinction, Douzono et al. describes at column 3, lines 44-47 and lines 65-67, that the low-pressure-side compressor 1 has rotors held in a casing 1c that has its own cooling jacket 1b and the high-pressure-side compressor 2 has rotors held in a casing 2c having a separate and distinct cooling jacket 2b. The two rotor housings 1c and 2c are not surrounded by a coolant housing. Furthermore, as described in Douzono et al. at column 5, line 59 to column 6, line 6, the lubrication oil flows through a first pipe 21d connected to jacket 1b and through a second 21c connected to jacket 2b. The cited references, alone or in any reasonable combination, fail to teach or suggested the claimed invention.

It is respectfully submitted that pending claims 1-7 are in condition for allowance. Early reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

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If the examiner believes an interview, either telephonic or in person, will advance the prosecution of this matter, it is respectfully requested that the examiner get in contact with the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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